

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-65 are as pending in this application. Claims 25-58 have been allowed. Claims 4-10 and 13-19 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1-3, 11, 12 and 21-24 have been rejected.

A Preliminary Amendment was filed along with the Application on June 8, 2001. In the Preliminary Amendment, claims 16, 20, 23, 24 and 57 were amended, and new claims 59-65 were added. The fee also was paid for a total of 65 claims. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the pending claims should be claims 1-65. However, only claims 1-58 were indicated in the pending Office Action of July 8, 2003. It appears that the Preliminary Amendment was not considered by the Office Action.

By this Amendment, claims 1-3, 7, 11, 12 and 20-24 are cancelled. Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16, 25 and 57 are amended. New claims 66-77 are added. No new matter has been added.

Objection

Claims 4-10 and 13-19 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 4, 5, 13, 14 and 16 have been rewritten in independent form as shown above. In addition, claim 7 has been cancelled, and claims 75-77 have been added reciting claim 7 in

independent form.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully request these objections be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-3, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,283,599 to Lin. The Examiner indicates that Lin discloses each and every elements of the rejected claims and cites col. 2, line 53-col. 3, line 6 of Lin. Claims 1-3, 11 and 12 have been cancelled by this Amendment. Accordingly, the rejections directed to these claims is now moot.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 20-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,142,134 to Ogawa et al. ("Ogawa"). The Examiner indicates that "Ogawa et al. teach the use of movable lens member preceding an optical arrangement with plural light modulators." Claims 20-24 have been cancelled by this Amendment. Accordingly, the rejections directed to these claims is now moot.

Claims 66-77 have been added to recite the claimed invention in an alternative manner. Applicants believe that the subject matters in the added claims are not disclosed in the cited references (i.e., Lin and Ogawa). Accordingly, the added claims are believed to be allowable for at least similar reasons as for the allowed claims.

Applicants believe that the added claims are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

PATENT



Application Serial No. 09/877,768
Amendment dated October 8, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 8, 2003
Docket No. 1232-4722


AUTHORIZATION

No petitions or additional fees are believed due for this amendment and/or any accompanying submissions. However, to the extent that any additional fees and/or petition is required, including a petition for extension of time, Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner to grant such petition, and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, including any fees which may be required for such petition, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-4722). **A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.**

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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